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AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

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N. E. FARMER.

For the New England Farmer.

SCIENCE APPLIED TO AGRICULTURE.

Chemistry has been styled "the secret process of the matter, that from which the forms of things originate." It is a science as universal in its operations as the combination of different simples in forming compound substances. Hence, the air we breathe, the earth we walk upon, the rain that cometh down from heaven and watereth the earth, the food we eat and the raiment we put on—in short, every thing, not only those which render our existence comfortable, but those which form its enjoyment, are the result of its operations and subject to its laws. Even ourselves, "fearfully and wonderfully made," a curious compound of undefinable enduring mind, and perishable, incongruous matter, come within its sphere, and possess enough of its "subtle agencies" to invite the research of the most persevering to an occupation for life. In fact, we live in a grand laboratory, where chemical action is continually going on, not in a single set of them, but in a stupendous whole, and where it will continue to go forward, until the mass of matter on which it operates shall, by a grand explosion, be thrown back to chaos. Mind truly may escape the catastrophe of ruin, and the clayey crucible in which it experienced its remodeling and assimilations; but in all things else the amalgamation must be complete.

Can it for a moment be imagined that a science of so general operations and such visible effects, can be unimportant to a farmer? Take his soils; they are the result of a chemical combination of earths, say the disintegrated parts of rocks and vegetable matter in a decayed or decaying condition. Now all rocks, as the sciences which claim more particular kindred with them will determine, are not composed of the same material, consequently the earths which collect around them must differ in proportion as the sources from which they originate, and the early productions of vegetation are such as the peculiar nature of the earths most naturally excites, and these possessed again of different constituents in their decay, both of leaves, and when the parent stalk has fulfilled its maturing process, form soils of varieties differing from those which are the effects of different circumstances. Thus a soil on which the dark hemlock sheds its deep foliage, differs from that which sends the towering pine majestically high: that of the maple differs from the ash; the oak from the elm, and so on.

Soils in high regions have usually less depth and contains a proportionably greater amount of earthy matter than those of lower territory, from the fact that vegetable matter is easily brought down by the thaws of spring and rains of autumn, and deposited in places which nature seems to have provided for its reception. These soils are usually of the most fertile character, yet they must in some degree, vary in proportion with the mountains and forests whence they originate. Thus we see the valley of one river more fertile than that of another—a circumstance which chemistry can obviate, by determining what the *lacking* quality is, and how it may be provided, or introducing plants adapted to that peculiar soil. The analysis of soils, sufficient to determine their productive qualities, is a very simple process, and soon passed through. In order to perform it, the farmer need not be at expense for an extensive apparatus, nor restrict his operations to drams and pennyweights. His business is of a *wholesale* nature; his observation can mark the changes of soil, and by analyzing a small portion of a particular one, the character of the *whole* is sufficiently determined for general purposes.

Soils which in a state of nature, are sometimes of a character which renders them worthless, by a chemical process are rendered fertile. Take our swamps, which are to be found in almost every town, some of which have bottoms as deep as western prairies, and "as rich as mud"; yet in a state of nature they are almost as worthless as the desert of Sahara for agricultural purposes. How are they to be made the most profitable of the farmer's domains? They must be cleared and drained, to be sure; but when all this is done there is yet one thing lacking, for they are as barren as an ash-heap. What is "the one thing needful"? We respond, not only to show that *chemistry* has a remedy, but also to assure those who pretend that our State surveys are useless operations, by giving an anecdote.

Somewhere in Massachusetts, (we could tell where,) an old gentleman who had tilled the earth carefully and laboriously, until his "threescore years and ten" had nearly vanished, pointed the Commissioner of the geological survey to a piece of very deep rich muck land, and complained bitterly that with all his industry, he could make it produce nothing but weeds. With his usual tact, the Commissioner assured him the only reason why his labors were not requited, was that his land was *too rich*. "Too rich!" said the veteran farmer, "it can't be: we wish to make our land as rich as possible, and labor incessantly to promote this object." Had he been acquainted with the beautiful operations of chemistry, how it applies itself to every part of the operations of agriculture, he might perhaps have saved himself much labor, and a rich harvest from his land through many years. More, by the same labors he might have increased the value of his surrounding fields, by bartering from them their sterility, and repaying load for load from the rich deposite from his muck bed. This was all that was necessary to scatter fertility all around him—simply to carry off this rich vegetable matter which had been accumulating for ages, and replacing in its stead his sands or loam, or whatever that savored of barrenness.

Lands from mismanagement may acquire a diseased and sickly as well as an exhausted state.—They may become too sour, too bitter, or some other of the evils which bad management induces, may attack them. Then are they like a diseased stomach, totally out of order. Usual applications will have no effect. They, like the sick man, must be dealt with according to the disease. And here we ask leave to introduce another anecdote, in support of our sentiment that chemistry is an important science for the farmer. One of that ancient and honorable fraternity was one day heard to complain by a son then in college, that such a piece of land produced but "*leetle.*" "Lime it," said the son. "Lime it!" said the old man, "you, when you have not done a day's work on the farm in three years, come from college, and to repay your father's toil in your behalf, undertake to teach him how to farm it" "*Lime it,*" said the son—"the soil is too sour: an alkali will neutralize an acid, and your field will be productive." The father at length tried the experiment, and saw a good effect, and so thoroughly was *he* convinced of the utility of this science in agriculture, that he said his sons might all go to college to learn to be farmers, if they all give assurance of similar acquirements.

Chemistry in agriculture applies itself in a thousand ways and produces a thousand good effects.—Nature is a great workshop, where she is continually carrying forward her operations. Economy is a universal law in all her dominions. She forms nothing in vain, and where the purposes of its formation are answered, and it moulders back to decay, she does not admit of the least waste in all its parts. She carries out with the nicest precision, the salutary injunction, "gather up the fragments, that nothing may be lost." Hence what is not available in one part of her operations, is applied to another; and so in her grand concerns, each fills a "part of the stupendous whole." To imitate and assist her in carrying this law into effect, is a part of the service of the farmer, and in proportion as he does his duty, will his labors be rewarded. But if he is remiss, if he allows his soils to remain sterile or suffers them to become exhausted—if he allows his manures to waste their richness on the atmosphere, or suffers them to be injudiciously applied to his lands—if he suffers any thing to waste uselessly away, which with due care might benefit his soil, leanness will set a landmark to his possessions which his neighbor will not try to remove; famine will enter his premises, and the horrors most likely seize upon his mind. W. B.

Mount Osceola, Jan. 27, 1840.

For the New England Farmer.

ROHAN POTATOES.

Brighton, Jan. 28th, 1840.

Mr Breck—Dear Sir—Much has been said and written about the Rohan Potato, and much, I think sir, which has had a tendency to mislead many as to its quality and productiveness.

I have waited till I supposed all the "Great Yield of Rohans" had been giving to the public before I dared give you an account of the experiment *I made* the last season, and which I had promised to give you some time since.

The object I had in view, sir, in making these experiments, *was not* to see how many *pounds* I

could grow from an *ounce*, or to ascertain how many *bushels* I could obtain from a *pound*, using *extra* soil, manure, labor, &c. &c.

But my object was to find out what *kind of soil* and *manure* was *best adapted* to the Rohan, and what might ordinarily be effected by *common* care and means.

I now give you as briefly as I can, the promised account.

I purchased of you in May last, *five pounds* Rohan: on the 7th I selected the *lowest* ground I had, a very deep soil, rich but very wet: I marked out one row of *fifteen hills*, about two feet apart: I dug with a spade, holes below the level surface, about one foot deep: into these holes I put two quarts each of Ward's bone manure, and mixed it up with the earth, nearly filling the holes to each hill: I planted *two eyes* and covered them three inches deep: the ground was so wet while planting as to mire and make it quite muddy.

I next planted *fifteen hills more*, in a row parallel with the first, (three feet distant.) The second row was planted precisely like the first, excepting the *manure*. To this row I applied fresh *cow* manure, and mixed it up with the earth in the holes as the first. To each row of fifteen hills I planted *two pounds* of Rohan.

You will recollect, sir, that about this time we had heavy rains: after they were planted, the water actually covered the entire surface of the ground for more than two days; it was so very wet, I doubted much if they *ever* sprouted. On the 15th I planted the other pound; and for this I selected the dryest ground I had, a side hill, having a northeasterly exposure: I planted *ten hills;* manured with old stable manure (horse.)

To all the three rows I gave but the ordinary care, removing the weeds between them *twice* only, and giving them a very slight hilling up.

Those planted on *bone* manure came up first and grew best: those planted on the *cow* manure, only *six* out of *fifteen* came up at all: those on the *horse* manure all came up.

On the 24th September, the day previous to the annual exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, I dug them all.

From the fifteen hills planted on *bone* manure I dug *two bushels*, very large and superior, weighing 128 lbs.: From the *six* hills that came up on *cow* manure, the produce was about *a peck*, weighing 12 lbs.; inferior in size and appearance: and from the *ten* hills on the side hill, I dug *half a bushel*, weighing 30 lbs.; very fair in size and appearance.

I have tried the several kinds on my table, and find those grown in the *meadow*, on the *bone* manure, decidedly best; yet I do not think them by any means a *good eating potato*.

Those grown as above mentioned, on the *bone* manure, were long and large, many of them weighing over a pound. I selected *twelve* for the exhibition at the Society's rooms, which weighed 14 lbs.

Those grown on the side hill were smaller, more round, and even surface.

From the experiment I made, I am satisfied that the Rohan will prove a very desirable potato for *stock*. That *wet land* suits them best, and to ensure *great* crops, *bone* manure is what they crave. These are my reasons:

When I dug them I was struck with the appearance of the long, fibrous roots, which had struck down into the bone manure, and formed, as it were, a perfect net-work around the whole mass, so much so, that in pulling up the tops or vines, the whole mass in some instances were drawn up with them, and this only with those planted on bone manure. I took particular notice of this fact, for in digging the others I found no such roots at all.

The bones were decomposed in part and formed a glutinous body, and it appeared that it had absorbed and dried up much of the moisture around the hill, and it is to this fact I attribute their preservation during the wet season, their rapid growth and their liberal produce, while the other row near them were nearly or quite destroyed by the moisture.

There is no doubt in my own mind but that the crops would have been much larger had they remained longer in the ground, for when they were dug they were in a thrifty and growing state; but being desirous of ascertaining some facts at that time, was the reason of my digging them.

So well convinced am I, sir, that the above mentioned facts are *important*, that I shall the coming season, increase the quantity planted to several bushels, and upon bone manure, and should any one be induced to try the experiment, I hope they will give the result to you.

Very respectfully,
Yours, truly,
JAMES L. L. F. WARREN.

Brighton, (Nonantum Vale,) Jan. 28, 1840.

For the N. E. Farmer.

PAUPER FARMS.

Mr Breck—The system of supporting the poor on farms, is one that has added much comfort to the unfortunate, but is opposed by some individuals on the ground of expense. It has appeared to me that such farms should be *model* farms. Managed judiciously, by men who should be retained in office for a series of years, they could be made such.

The manner of presenting the annual accounts of many pauper establishments, of the kind here referred to, has appeared to me erroneous, and conveys to the inhabitants wrong impressions and results in *cheating the farm* of its rightful due, in the same way that farms are frequently defrauded by individuals. Below you have a *supposed* case, presuming that the town has paid for its farm and stock, and that without it, the cost of supporting each pauper would be *ninety cents per week*, as struck off to the lowest bidder.

April, 1839.	*Farm*,	*Dr.*
Cost of farm,		$3000 00
Stock,		300 00
Tools,		125 00
Produce,		495 00
		$3920 00
Paid cash for oxen,		100 00
" "	blacksmith,	22 40
" "	wheelwright,	10 60
" "	1 plough,	6 00
" "	clothing, groceries, &c. for inmates,	171 80
" "	superintendent,	300 00
Interest on $3920,		235 20
Estimated labor of inmates,		78 60
Balance profit,		285 00
		$5129 00

	Farm,	*Cr.*
By cash for butter, &c.		$200 00
" "	Calves, &c.	20 00
" "	Potatoes, &c.	40 00
" "	Boarding inmates, average number through the year 19, at 90 cents per week,	889 00
1840—*April.*		
Farm,		3000 00
Stock,		325 00
Tools,		115 00
Produce,		540 00
		$5129 00

By the above it will be seen that the town, supposing its farm as good as the previous year, has made an advance of $285, and has paid the interest on investment, $235, making the sum of $520—which deducted from $889, the cost in the old way of supporting the poor, leaves the actual cost to the town $369;—or say $19 1-2 per year, or 37 1-2 cents per week for each person, supposing the number nineteen.

It is confidently believed that the results of most of the pauper establishments prove more favorable than represented above. Will you or some of your correspondents point out any error that may exist in this statement. D.

For the N. E. Farmer.

CHANGE IN ENGLISH HAY.

Mr Editor—In the spring of some eight or ten years ago, (I am not certain of the exact time,) my working oxen, which had previously been very good to bear the heat in the spring, could not work as usual, without being over-heated. On inquiry I found that other farmers' oxen were in the same situation, and that it was very extensively so. It was a subject of inquiry and discussion, what could be the cause, as the weather was not unusually warm. My oxen had always in the spring, been kept on hay, of what is called natural English mowing, and always before, with the best success. By natural English mowing is meant such upland as is too rocky, or too moist to plough, or which is supposed to be more profitable to remain in its natural state; and occasionally giving it a top-dressing of fine manure, and in that way to get two crops of hay in a year, and a third, of good feed for cattle. Why it is called *English* hay, I know not, for such grasses are the natural product of the soil.

After much thought on the subject, and from the fact that my cows were affected in the same way, when exposed to the sun, I came to the conclusion that it was the hay; and most men now have come to the same conclusion; not all, however, being aware of the fact, that the quality of the hay has altered, and that, from some unknown cause, and where the management has been the same for a long succession of years. It has now become very generally known that this kind of hay is not eaten so well by animals as formerly: there is not that sweet smell to it that there used to be, and that it generally causes the cattle that eat it to heat.—In some instances, the cultivated grasses are not of so good a quality as formerly, and produce the same effect as the natural grasses, on working oxen. Now what can be the cause of this alteration in the above mentioned kind of hay? I will hazard the opinion that it is caused by some alteration in the seasons.

Will you, Mr Editor, or some other one, tell us if you can, the cause of this change?

A FARMER.

Jan. 27, 1840.

INVESTING CAPITAL IN AGRICULTURE.

At the present time when there is much derangement in commercial concerns, and when the world seems filled to a surfeit, with all kinds of stocks, it may not be improper to pause a moment, look around us and see what sort of investments have stood the tests which the various circumstances of a political and commercial nature have brought to bear upon them. Is that portion of capital which is invested in the thousand and one speculations of the day, as safe and as productive as the holders desire? Do the banks exhibit in their returns, such an enormous dividend that makes their stock so very lucrative that it is an object to invest in them largely? We think not. If we take the whole amount of bank dividends in this state and average them upon the amount of capital stock, they will hardly amount to four per cent. Look at the various other kinds of fancy or other stock, which have swallowed up so much of the capital of our own citizens—very few of them yield six per cent. Again, look at the active commercial part of the community. Group them all together and sum up the profits and the losses, and average them among the individuals, and will their profits be so great and so splendid that it would be cause of envying the proprietors? So unsettled has been business, and so full of uncertainty and fluctuation, that hundreds and thousands, who have entered the field of commercial enterprise with some little capital—the fruits of their own or their father's industry—are now in fact deeply insolvent, and in truth pennyless, however well they may manage in concealing it by the use of other people's property.

Well, how is it with capital invested in agriculture? How is it with funds invested in the soil and the improvements of a well managed farm? Are they any more productive, or are they, in fact as far in the back ground as the votary of commercial speculation would fain make the world believe? We believe that if we take the amount of capital invested in any well conducted farm, and carefully calculate the net proceeds, it will be found that it is more productive than most of the investments of the present day. Let us take for instance, any particular crop. The oat crop is as fair a one as any to calculate upon.

Let us first estimate the amount of capital to produce a crop from an acre; and first we will give what in this state may be considered a large price, especially if we were to purchase a whole farm at the rate, we will give $50 for the acre, $50 00

Ploughing,	2 00
Seed,	1 25
Harrowing in,	1 00
Interest of cost of acre for one year,	3 00
	$57 25

We will give the straw for harvesting and threshing, and we have now invested fifty-seven dollars and twenty-five cents.

We will suppose that you get thirty bushels of oats, and that is a crop hardly worth bragging about. Our friend Ford, of Gray, gets 66 bushels per acre, but we will take thirty bushels, only *thirty*, and will sell them for less than we gave in the spring for seed. We will sell them for 37 1-2 cents per bushel, which will amount to $11 25. Now eleven dollars and twenty-five cents is the interest of $187 50, at 6 per cent, or in other words, is more than nineteen per cent upon the interest of capital invested, including purchase money and all. But as you have the acre still on hand, deduct if you please, the $50 which you gave, and the expenses will then amount to $7 25.

This then is the actual floating or circulating capital required to produce your acre of oats, including rent or interest of purchase money, and the nett income, $11 25, is about 155 per cent.

Fiddlestick, exclaims neighbor Scrubard—now this is all humbug—real book farming. Any body can get rich on a piece of paper. If money can be made so easy by farming, why *ain't* I and every one who have been farming all our days as rich as mud? *I do n't believe nothing on 't.*

Well neighbor, put down your *goadstick* and let us inquire into it. How large a farm have you?

One hundred acres.

What did you give for it?

$2000, that is $20 per acre. The interest of this is $120. Well then I have to pay about $20 in taxes, that makes $140, then I have to hire help, two men six months in a year, and work hard myself the year round.

Well we will give you all twelve dollars per month, that will be $144 for yourself, and $144 for your men; equal to $288, which added to the interest and taxes, $140, makes $428 outsets or circulating capital. Then there is the interest on the cost and wear and tear of tools, you have reckoned. Well we will give you $72 to pay for that, which is the interest of more than a thousand dollars for your tools and implements, but we will give you that sum, which added to the $428 will swell it up to $500. Now how in the world do you pay this $500 but off of your farm?—mind you, this $500 is what you invest, year after year—it is the interest of your first investment of $2000 for your farm, payment to yourself and men for labor, &c. &c. Now how much land do you cultivate and how much hay do you cut?

I cultivate twenty-five acres, and mow twenty-five—I have twenty-five in pasture and twenty-five in woodland.

Produce.

2	acres of Indian corn,	50 bush.	worth	$50 00
4	" potatoes (light crop)	1000 "	"	200 00
5	" oats	150 "	"	56 25
6	" barley	120 "	"	80 40
5	" wheat (light crop)	50 "	"	50 00
3	" rye	60 "	"	60 00
40	tons of hay worth $6 per ton			240 00
			Total	$736 65

Thus the whole amount of your crops are worth $736 65, making due allowance for rust in your potatoes, and weevil in your wheat, and not rating the other very high, either in amount per acre or at a high valuation in the market. We have charged you nothing for seed, and although we have allowed you full wages while sowing, cultivating and harvesting, we have said nothing in regard to the value of the straw, husks, &c. You have thus realized $236 65 more than a return of your circulating capital, which is more than 47 per cent.

Ah, well—this looks mighty well on paper, but it is n't *cash*. The merchant and the broker have the *clean cash*, while we poor farmers have to go without the rhino, if our barns and cellars are ever so full.

What then? it is what will purchase cash—it is property, it is substantial wealth. If you were under the necessity of buying this amount of produce in the markets, you would find that it was worth something. Scrubard looked somewhat puzzled.

It is true, said he, it would cost a good deal to buy what even a poor farmer may raise; but after all, where is one that does as well as you have figured out, there are ten who run astern and finally come out of the little *eend* of the horn.

Grant you that, neighbor, and what is the reason of it? They do not invest capital enough in their business, either because they have not got it, or because they are too penurious. They may cultivate a few acres well, which yields them a good profit, while they suffer nine tenths of the rest of their farms to lie idle, and the interest on the cost of these acres eats up the profit of the few that they do cultivate. We have said nothing of the income from your pasture or your woodland.

If the position here taken be true, and we challenge scrutiny, and beg to be put right if we are wrong; how much better would it be if those who are now farmers by profession would, if able, devote more capital to their business instead of diverting it as many do into other channels and engaging too largely in other business.

Any one who rides through the state cannot but notice the thousands of unimproved acres on either hand. How much better would it be if more of our young men would take hold of the business of farming, instead of aspiring to a life of *apparent* ease in commercial pursuits. It is true that the farmers crops are sometimes cut off; but not oftener than are the hopes of the merchant. Mildew and hail and rain, and hurricanes sometimes destroy the fruits of the earth; but not oftener than do the elements work destruction upon the ships of the importer.

Life is full of vicissitudes, and risks and changes in whatever place or pursuit you can engage, but, taking every view we can of the whole, we are convinced that capital invested in agriculture is most safe and profitable.—*Maine Farmer.*

Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Saturday, Feb. 8, 1840.

E. W. Bull, Esq., of Hartford, Ct., exhibited specimens of a large, handsome, red sweet apple. Mr Bull states that they were the produce of a natural tree, which the past season yielded 30 bushels of apples.—We should judge from its size, beauty and tender and sweet flesh, and its abundant produce, to be one of the most valuable winter fruits. Mr B. has kindly offered to send some cuttings from the tree in the spring, which will be distributed to the members of the society.

Mr Oliver exhibited beautiful specimens of the Echasserie Pear, (London Hort. Soc. Cat. No. 269.) This fruit although of small size, is very high flavored, not subject to crack or blight, an abundant bearer and deserves to be extensively cultivated.

Mr French exhibited three sorts of Red Winter apples—names or origin unknown.

Mr Manning exhibited specimens of the Easter Beurre Pear. For the Committee,

ROBERT MANNING.

The mechanic who is ashamed of his apron or the farmer who is ashamed of his frock, is himself a shame to his profession.

For the N. E. Farmer.

BENEVOLENCE IN BIRDS—THEIR USEFULNESS, &c.

The communication of H. C. in the Farmer of the 5th inst., relative to the canker-worm, in which he says the only effectual remedy against these insects known to him is "the encouragement of birds," brings fresh to our recollection some reminisences respecting this persecuted, interesting and useful race, which we think will be pleasing to our readers, particularly to the younger ones. We can hardly say with the writer of the article, that "killing a small bird should be placed in our penal code next to killing a child"; but we do say that it ought to be met with a punishment sufficient to prevent the destruction which annually takes place, in mere wantonness or sport, among the innocent songsters of our groves and orchards. We have been almost disposed in times past to bring the boys before Judge Lynch, and might probably have done it could we have put our hands upon them.

While residing in Lancaster a few years since, we were located near the river which runs through the town, whose banks and intervals are ornamented with numerous fine elms and other trees, which add much to the beauty of this pleasant village: in these trees the birds congregate in great numbers and rear their young. A gigantic elm, the admiration of travellers and the pride of the village, threw out its wide spreading branches over the cottage in which we dwelt, and while it shielded us from the scorching sun, afforded in its ample head, (a forest almost in itself,) a secure retreat for a great variety of birds, whose movements afforded much amusement for the family. Among these birds were a pair of crow black-birds, who had selected the fork of a partly decayed limb very high in the tree, as a place to build their nest and rear their young. Having in my juvenile days some prejudice against this bird, as I was taught, that with the crow it would dig up the newly sprouted corn, and commit sundry other depredations, I therefore viewed them with a suspicious eye as I saw them in company from day to day upon my newly planted grounds, busily engaged in helping themselves to what they liked best. I satisfied myself soon, however, that they had been vilely slandered, and that they were friends and not enemies: it was evident they were clearing my grounds of grubs and worms at a great rate. They soon found that I was no enemy to them, and consequently became quite tame and familiar, following the plough or harrow with nearly as much confidence as the domestic fowls. It appeared that there was a good state of feeling among the numerous tribes that inhabited the tree, consisting as they did of so many families, embracing the robin, blue-bird, sparrow, golden robin, and a variety of others, and things seemed to prosper among them and go on well, until the night before old fashioned "'lection," (a fatal day to the feathered tribe): during that night there was a very high wind: early in the morning I was awakened by an unusual clamor among the birds, and rose to ascertain the cause—I found that the decayed limb on the fork of which was the crow-black-bird's nest, had been broken off by the wind, and the nest and contents (five young ones,) precipitated to the ground, and that four of them were dead or dying. The surviving one was nearly fledged and could fly a little. I picked it up from the grass and placed it in a secure situation, supposing the distressed parents would take care of it. The old ones continued their clamor all the morning, which with the sympathizing cries of the other birds, formed a melancholy concert.

While the black-birds had perched upon a neighboring tree near the road, still giving vent to their sorrow, a boy passed with his gun, fired, and brought them both to the ground and carried them away in triumph: luckily for the boy, I did not witness the barbarous deed, but it was noted by one of the family and soon reported to me. As I had become somewhat interested in the unfortunate orphan, I proposed to my children that they should feed it with worms until it could take care of itself, and accordingly placed it in a pen under the tree and returned to my work near by. It was not long before I heard from the young bird its peculiar note which it uttered when its parent brought food, and on looking up, saw that it had hopped up on to a joist to which the board fence was fastened, and to my great delight and surprise, beheld a blue-bird in the act of feeding it. That beautiful passage of scripture flashed upon my mind—"Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings? and not one of them is forgotten before God." My curiosity was now raised to see what would be the issue, and I soon found that any further care on my part would be superfluous, for the young chap had fallen into better hands. It was with the deepest interest I watched the movements of this devoted pair of blue-birds to their adopted one, for it appeared that both male and female had taken part in this work of disinterested benevolence and devoted themselves with unremitting attention to its wants, until it was able to take care of itself. For a couple of days it remained near the spot where I first saw the birds feeding it, and being near a window, had a good opportunity to see how things went on between them. It appeared that the young one kept his benefactors pretty busy; for their incessant labors could hardly satisfy the young gormandizer, as upon an estimate after much attention, he received a portion of food every 2 1-2 minutes during the day, which appeared to consist of worms and grubs The black-bird probably weighed twice as much as both blue-birds, and when it opened its capacious mouth to receive the food, it seemed as though its kind friends were in imminent danger of being swallowed whole. The blue-birds appeared alternately with the food and lit down a few feet in front of the bird on the fence, and viewed with apparent astonishment, the extended mouth of the young one for a second, then hopping up deposited the food, then as quick back to the first position, regarding for another second with marks of satisfaction, the object of charity, and then away for a new supply.

In a few days the young bird found the use of its wings, and was followed from tree to tree upon the premises by its faithful providers, for nearly a week: it had by that time learned to find its own food; and soon it fell in company with some of its own kith and kin, and I could recognise it no more. Whether it ever returned to express its gratitude to its foster parents, we have never learned.

Many of my neighbors could testify to the above facts, as some of them called daily to see for themselves.

J. B.

CONTENTMENT.—Contentment inclines us to good actions. Innocent pleasures, also have a healthful influence upon the body and mind. As melancholy and grief wear away our strength, so is it proportionably increased by cheerfulness and joy.

From the Boston Courier.

BIRDS—CANKER WORMS.

MR EDITOR—I see it stated in your paper of Friday, that the probable reason why the canker-worm commits small ravages in 'Flob,' is found in the care with which the birds are protected. I was reminded of a remark in Peabody's Life of Wilson: "He enters into a deliberate calculation of the exact value of the services of the red-winged black-bird, which certainly bears no good reputation on the farm; showing that, allowing a single bird fifty insects in a day, which would be short allowance, a single pair would consume 12,000 in four months; and if there are a million of pairs of these birds in the United States, the amount of insects is less by twelve thousand millions, than if the red-wing were exterminated." Let any one during the brooding season of robins or of other birds, rise by break of day and count the number of times old ones return in one hour with worms and insects, or, if he can, let him count through the day, and the number will be found to be almost incredible.

The practice of killing birds for mere amusement, is not merely indicative of cruelty and want of feeling, but is exceedingly detrimental to the interests of the community. If the farmers reflected and made calculations upon the subject, they would discourage and oppose it as one of the greatest scourges, and would pay a premium to their boys to let the birds alone rather than furnish them with powder and shot to kill them.

And, now that I am upon the subject of insects and worms, let me add that there is a very unreasonable prejudice against toads. They are exceedingly valuable in gardens and other places, in consequence of the exterminating warfare they are continually waging against the bugs and worms. Any person who has them in his garden has a treasure there; and if he will watch them closely, he will find them accomplishing more in the way of preserving his squash and cucumber vines and other vegetables, than he can do with all his troughs of liquid. I think these subjects will be brought more fully into notice by the gentlemen commissioned by the State to examine its Natural History; indeed I know that one of them, at least, has been at great pains for two years, to collect from all parts of the country what information he could upon the subject, which would be likely to secure the farmer from the ravages which his trees, his grain crops, and all the products of his farm suffer from insects and other causes. I would suggest that this subject be brought up at the weekly agricultural meetings, and that persons acquainted with these matters be invited to communicate their information upon them. For, notwithstanding all the outcry about retrenchment and useless offices, it seems to me that no offices are likely in the end to be more valuable to us than those which will bring to light the hidden resources of this State, and collect all the information, both scientific and practical, which will secure to the agricultural population relief from every thing which blights and diminishes their crops.

S. Y.

It is moral excellence alone that renders a free people great and happy. Without it, all is empty splendor and hollow decay. Religion is the source of most of the moral excellence of the race. Its influence when pure and liberal, is wholesome and ennobling.

For the New England Farmer.

EDUCATION OF FARMERS.

Mr Breck—In your notice in the New England Farmer of the highly cultivated and productive farm of that very useful and distinguished gentleman, E. Phinney, Esq., of Lexington, you remark that he assured you that his attention was first called to the subject of agriculture by reading the New England Farmer, and that at his establishment you realized all you had expected to see, where the *science* of agriculture, guided by the hands of learning and practical skill, was brought to the aid of practical farming.

This recalled to my mind a subject of vast moment, not only to the agricultural interest of the United States, but to every interest and craft into which human society is subdivided: I mean a radical defect in our whole system of education, from the common school upward to the final graduation at our colleges, during the whole of which important period of human life, the attention, the taste, the sympathies of the educated class are systematically diverted and estranged from the subject of agriculture and the pursuit of the great mass of our people, as if an evil spirit rather than a good and bountiful God, had first assigned to man the cultivation of the earth as his highest and noblest pursuit—as if to keep up the humbug importance of the learned professions, as if the statesman, the scholar, the lawyer and divine, need know nothing or care nothing about agriculture—the pursuit, perhaps, of sixteen twentieths of our population, and by which all classes "live and move and have their being"; as if national wealth, independence, happiness and morality, had nothing to do with the increased products of the earth.

Now, sir, how comes it to pass in this boasted republic, of almost boundless extent, of every variety of climate, soil and production, that the principle of equality is entirely reversed—that which is showy takes the precedence of that which is substantial—that he who lives by professional quackery, the honest cheateries of trade or gambling speculation, is admitted by common consent to a higher rank in the public estimation than the farmer? I answer, our system of education lays permanently the foundation of this very state of things. Admit the science and art of agriculture to an equal importance in our institutions of learning with chemistry, architecture, law or theology: let it be considered one of the sister sciences, and let stated lectures be delivered to our young men during the period of their collegiate education, on the science of agriculture as on chemistry, comparative anatomy, or oriental literature, and a new day would dawn on the agriculture of the country and the condition of the husbandman. When these young men go forth through the length and breadth of the land to exert that influence upon society which belongs alone to education and intelligence, to direct public sentiment, make laws and rule the land, in the walks of private life, in the halls of legislation, agriculture would find warm and hearty friends and staunch and bold advocates in the learned class, and grants and aid from the States would be as common to agriculture as they have been to learning, law, medicine or theology; and the now unheard of donations for agricultural learning, would become as common, and more honorable and useful than the foundation of professorships of Greek, Latin, oriental or polite literature.

Is not agriculture as much a science as law, medicine, theology, or moral philosophy? Is there not as much in agriculture to form a good, useful, and virtuous character in our young men, as in the discussion and lectures on mere abstract morals or modern literature?

Had our legislators of the present day enjoyed the benefit of agricultural lectures in the course of their education and been made early in life to realize the importance of agriculture as the true source of national wealth and independence, can you believe for a moment that by a partial system of legislation, predicated on the superior claims of commerce, the mechanic arts and manufactures to State and national encouragement, they would have made the country dependent on the monarchies and despotisms of Europe for the supply of their daily bread? Is not our republic, by the annual importation of from 15 to $20,000,000 of bread stuffs, reduced to the condition of a farmer spending annually more than his income, and in case of foreign war, unbalanced and diverted from its true and natural channel, as the industry of the country now is, must not famine and distress invade many portions of our glorious and now happy country?

It is said by some that the idea of an agricultural professorship is Utopian and visionary. Other countries have found it necessary to enlist learning on the side of agriculture. In despotic Russia, in the colleges at Petersburg and Moscow, are agricultural professors at the expense of government, and in the common schools and colleges in Prussia, agriculture is a part of the regular course of studies: In the German states, in France and Scotland, similar attention is given to agriculture.

Now, we have public spirited men among us with untold thousands, designed at last for some public benefaction, to perpetuate the usefulness and beneficence of its present owners, after they shall have passed from the scenes of this mortal life to the rewards of the just made perfect. Now what object to such men can be presented, with higher claims to their beneficence, than agricultural education? Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

H. C. MERIAM.

PRESENTATION OF A VASE TO M. P. WILDER, Esq.

Mr Editor—It will, I have no doubt, be gratifying to your floral friends to learn, that soon after the close of the splendid exhibition of dahlias, by Col. Wilder, Messrs Hovey, Breck, Low and others, at the room of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, in September, and at the Conservatory at the Botanic Garden in Boston, in October last, it was proposed by a few admirers of this gorgeous flower, to present Col. M. P. Wilder with some token to testify the pleasure they have received (in common with thousands of their fellow-citizens for several years past,) by the brilliant displays which he has so repeatedly made. The subscriber, Chairman of the Committee on Flowers of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, was requested by the contributors to procure a silver vase, and to present the same in their names, to Col. Wilder: this has been done.—The vase was manufactured by Messrs Jones, Lows & Ball, in their best style, and bears the following inscription. The insertion of these few remarks in your valuable publication, with the letter of Mr Walker and the reply of Col. Wilder, will oblige many of your readers.

Yours, S. WALKER.

Roxbury, January, 1840.

Inscription on the vase:—"*Consequitur quodcunque petit.* Presented to Col. M. P. Wilder, by a few friends, as a memento of his unrivalled specimens of the dahlia, exhibited at the Conservatory."

On the reverse side—"*Boston, October*, 1839.

"To Marshall P. Wilder, Esq.

My Dear Sir—A few friends, admirers and cultivators of the dahlia, anxious to express to you, in some other way than words, how much they have been gratified by your splendid exhibition of the Dahlia, (and more particularly so by your specimens exhibited at the Conservatory, in October last,) have requested me, in their names, to prepare some token, as a memento of the high estimation in which they hold your successful cultivation. That memento is herewith sent you.

No event, sir, could have given me greater pleasure than being permitted by your friends to join with them in this humble tribute of respectful consideration and regards for your success and future personal welfare, and to subscribe myself, in their behalf, Your ob't, humble serv't,

S. WALKER.

Roxbury, December 7, 1839.

"To Samuel Walker, Esq.

My Dear Sir—Your very polite letter, accompanied with the beautiful silver vase, is received.

I should do great injustice to my feelings, were I not forthwith to express to you, sir, and to your associates, how fully sensible I am of the honor conferred on me by this distinguished testimonial of your approbation.

If I have done any thing to advance the interests of horticulture, the reflection, in itself, would be ample reward for all my exertions; but that I should, in the opinion of gentlemen so well skilled in the science, have attained, in any degree, to such success as to merit the motto you have caused to be inscribed on the vase, or the kind sentiments expressed in your letter, is more than I could have anticipated; and I must attribute this meed of praise rather to feelings of friendship than to any deserving of my own.

Be pleased, sir, to receive for yourself, and to communicate to the gentlemen associated with you, my most heartfelt acknowledgements for this token of their esteem; and to assure them, that it will be carefully preserved as a treasure during my life and transmitted to my family as a memento of our mutual love for the productions of Flora.

Wishing you all great success in the delightful pursuits of horticulture, and happiness and prosperity in all your concerns, I subscribe myself, with sentiments of great respect,

Your obliged, but humble servant,

MARSHALL P. WILDER.

Hawthorn Grove, Dorchester, Jan. 1, 1840."

Riches.—It is a strange delusion for men to suppose that happiness consists in riches. Contentment is not to be found in splendor and magnificence; or why is it that princes have sometimes exchanged the grandeur of a palace for the more simple enjoyments of private life? Why is the countenance of the rich man furrowed with thought and anxiety, while the poor go on their way shouting and exulting in the blessings which God has given them? Why does the man who has grown in wealth, look back to the days of his poverty, and ask himself why he cannot now rejoice as heartily over the *much* as he did over the *little*?

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1840.

THE FIFTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING

Was held at the Representatives' Hall on Thursday last. The attendance was large, and there was no abatement of interest in the objects of these meetings.

The Commissioner presented to the meeting several specimens of spring and winter wheat, of oats, barley, and tares, which were much admired.

The Chair then announced the subject of the evening's discussion to be Indian Corn.

The Commissioner then proceeded to give some views of the importance of this crop to the State, and the produce per acre which had sometimes been reached. In Pennsylvania, on five acres of land in the same field, one hundred and thirtyfive bushels of corn to an acre had been produced. In New York State, at Whitesborough, near Utica, more than 170 bushels had in three several instances been produced on an acre. In our own State, in Essex county and Middlesex county, more than one hundred and sixteen bushels. In Plymouth county one hundred and thirtysix bushels, as measured at harvest on the cob, and one hundred and ten bushels, as measured in the succeeding March, after being shelled. He likewise had the pleasure of giving them an account of a crop grown the present season in Southbridge, by Dr Samuel Hartwell, which yielded, as was certified in the most respectable manner, one hundred and fifty and one-half bushels upon one acre, one rood, and four rods of land: this would exceed one hundred and seventeen bushels per acre. The Commissioner then proceeded to read the statement of Dr Hartwell, giving all the particulars of his cultivation, the nature of the soil, the mode of manuring and planting; and to exhibit a sample of the corn grown.*

After this, Mr Allen Putnam, of Danvers, and Mr Wm. Clark, of Northampton, members of the House, and Mr H. C. Meriam, of Tewksbury, and Mr James G. Carter, of Lancaster, proceeded to address the meeting in a full and instructive manner, in regard to their modes of cultivation and the uses and value of the product.

Mr Putnam considered the value of Indian corn, as food for man and cattle, and pronounced it one of the most profitable crops which could be grown: he referred particularly to his farm in Danvers. The comparative value of different crops will vary of course in different situations. The soil of the farm on which he resides is loamy and gravelly. The depth of the loam is not uniform: in some parts it is black; in others it is heavy but not wet.

Formerly, the practice on the farm was to put ten loads of manure to the acre, and this was placed in the hill. A good crop at that time was forty bushels. Fifty would have been considered very large. The crops now are much more than that, and this increase comes from an increase of manure and improved cultivation. The kind of corn planted and which has not been changed on the farm for years, resembles what is called the Brown corn. It was formerly an early, now a late corn.

The crop obtained on the farm in 1839 was at the rate of 77 bushels per acre; in 1838, 60 bushels per acre; in 1837, 35 bushels of ripened corn and 37 bushels imperfectly matured but not worthless; in 1836 the crop suffered more than in 1837, but in this year he was absent from home, and he must therefore leave it out of the account. The crop has been cut off three times only in 60 years, viz: in 1816, '36 and '37. In 1835, the yield was 95 bushels per acre; in 1834, 75 bushels per acre. Through the years enumerated then, the crop has averaged 68 2-5 bushels per acre.

The expenses of cultivating an acre were estimated at 73 dollars; allowing in this case 40 dollars for manure. The value of the corn fodder was estimated as equal to one ton of hay, 15 dollars. It would be right to allow one third of the expense of the manure for improvement, as its advantages would extend beyond the first crop.—Charging interest upon the land at 100 dollars per acre at six dollars, and including every expense, the net profit of the crop would be $25 63. This is as fair a profit as can be generally obtained from any cultivation.

His mode of cultivation is to spread ten to twelve loads of manure in the autumn and plough it under. In the spring he would apply the same quantity to land which for any circumstance he could not plough in the fall. He is accustomed to plough from 6 to 8 inches deep. Though they have made repeated observations, they have not been able to perceive any difference in the crop on land ploughed in the fall or in the spring. In the spring he applies from his compost heap or barn cellar, 23 loads more of manure, which is put into the hill. The land for planting is furrowed both ways at right angles and at a distance of 3½ feet apart. The large crop of corn referred to was obtained on land newly broken up, and which had been some time in pasture. His crop the last year was injured by a severe storm, which checked the filling out of the ear, and the crop was 87 bushels 19 qts. per acre. Corn planted in hills at 3 ft. apart, gives 4300 hills to an acre.

When corn was planted on land upon which the manure is spread, it seemed at one time "to come to a stand." Where the manure had been placed in the hill, it advanced rapidly. In July, however, the corn on the first named land, came up with that on land on which the corn had been manured in the hill.

His corn is harvested by being cut up and "stooked." Three hills form a bundle; four bundles a stook. In the cob, the corn weighed 83 1-2 lbs; shelled 60 lbs.

Mr Clark, of Northampton, followed Mr Putnam. His object was not by extraordinary cultivation to obtain the largest crop which could be grown; but to obtain the best return for the time for the labor and capital employed.

His experiments in the cultivation of corn had been made upon light and worn out soils, pine plains; and his great object was to bring these lands into grass. His own experience had taught him that Indian corn was the best crop for this purpose. He should find it difficult to say what he would on this case, because the cultivation of this crop involved many points on which he would gladly enlarge, but the limits of the occasion did not admit of it. The ploughing and preparation of the land, were matters of great importance.

Farmers should seek instruction. They should endeavor to understand why they obtain a crop, and all the circumstances which must combine for the success of their husbandry. They apply expense—of time, labor and capital. Labor itself is capital. Unless they can understand the reason why labor is effectual, and what mode of applying it is best, they cannot apply it to advantage, and much that is applied will be necessarily thrown away. Labor constitutes the great expense of cultivation. Results are the effects of causes. We must seek to understand the causes, and we can then to a considerable degree, determine or modify the results. From the want of this knowledge, misapplied labor becomes money thrown away.

In proportion to their estimated value and the cost of cultivation, more may be obtained from light lands than from any others. Corn, as he had stated, was the best crop for bringing them into grass. Oats are an exhausting crop. Oats and rye and the small grains, are of the same character as grasses. They exhaust the land of that principle which is congenial or necessary to grass. On this doctrine is founded the necessity for a rotation of crops.

He has obtained corn upon these light lands without any manure at all, by taking advantage of the vegetable matter contained in them. Cold heavy lands require much manure. Light lands are cultivated with much less labor. They are, in his opinion, favorable to grass. These notions are opposed to prevailing opinions. He will not assert positively that moist and heavy lands are not, strictly speaking, more favorable to grass; but light lands give a sweeter kind of grass, and the amount is greater or the return better, than upon heavy lands, when the expense of manure and labor in the two cases are compared.

Ploughing is a most important operation in reference to the productiveness of the land. Differences of opinion in this matter prevail among farmers. Some prefer laying the furrow slices upon each other, or as it is termed, lapping them. He prefers to lay the furrow slice as flat as it can be laid. In this way he would cover up all the vegetable matter which was on the surface, that it may be effectually excluded from the air; and the progress of decomposition go on with as little waste of substance as possible. The proper depth of ploughing is matter of controversy. Earl Stimpson, of Galway, in New York, one of the most successful farmers in the country, ploughs not more than three inches. *He* does not approve this shallow ploughing. He has tried it and was unsuccessful. He now ploughs from 6 to 8 inches in depth, where the depth of soil admits of it. He goes as deep as the loam, but objects to bringing to the surface the subsoil. He disapproves much of what is called the "cut and cover" system of ploughing. He would have the whole surface completely inverted and well cultivated. This thorough and careful ploughing gives a better result. Farmers fail more often in ploughing than in any other agricultural operation. If it is not done well at first, it is difficult afterwards to correct faults or remedy deficiencies. If patches of sward are left untouched by the plough, he causes them to be turned by the hoe. He straitens his furrows, and is careful to leave every thing smooth. At the time of ploughing, these corrections can be made at a saving of a quarter of the labor which would be required to accomplish it afterwards. After this is done, he is careful to pass over his fields with a roller, and completely settles the furrow so as to cover up all the vegetable matter which was on the land. The difference between this and the usual modes of ploughing, is very striking in the results. The roller he considers indispensable. If the land is not rolled, the grass will grow up through the furrows, and the sward will not be rotted. His crops sometimes reach thirty to forty bushels per acre. He has sometimes obtained these crops without manure. On these light lands, if he can have but one, he prefers a roller to manure. He considers grass on these light lands as the most valuable crop, and indispensable to their improvement; and without the use of the roller it would be difficult to bring them into grass.

Mr Clark here read some extracts from the address of Mr Allen Putnam, at the Essex Agricultural Show last autumn. We intend soon to give this excellent address to our readers in full, and therefore omit the quotations.

Mr Clark proceeded to say that he thought too much stress was laid upon the benefit to be derived from hoeing corn. When there were no weeds, he preferred passing a harrow among the corn to hoeing, especially on account of the saving of time. He harrows his corn once in four days, alternately each way, if the weather admits of it. The growth of corn by this process is very rapid. Where corn is hilled, it required two or three days to recover itself from the injury of the hoe or plough. The admission of light and air is most important. Some persons doubt whether light has any agency in respect to the crop. After three or four days of cloudy weather, any one may observe that the tops of the forest trees become yellow. After a bright sun, the appearance will be changed. The effect of excluding light in bleaching the celery plant, every one knows. The stirring the earth around cabbage plants, a fact with which every farmer is familiar, quickens their growth in a remarkable manner; and this from breaking the crust which forms on the surface after rains or dews, and without any reference to the eradication of weeds. The opening, therefore, of the surface of the ground to the access of light and air, is of great importance. The surface becomes impervious to light and air, when it is not stirred, which checks the growth of the plant. This crust must be broken, and this may be done by the harrow more effectually than by the hoe, and at a tenth part of the expense. Weeds must not, of course, be suffered among growing crops, but the loosening of the surface is a matter upon which too much stress cannot be laid. Some persons advise at the first hoeing to take away the earth from the hill and supply fresh earth. He does not know the advantage of this.—The hilling of corn is not approved by Mr Clark. In the account given of hilling, in Dr Hartwell's crop, he does not perceive any decisive evidence of its advantage. Corn throws out many lateral roots: these are always near the surface: here the roots find their principal nourishment. No advantage can come from burying these roots by hilling. The roots of the corn will cover the whole surface if suffered to extend themselves freely. No advantage can come to any annual plant from cutting off the roots, as must be done by ploughing and hilling.—When the surface only is broken, corn advances without interruption. Much labor is expended uselessly in hilling corn. The only object of such labor should be to destroy weeds. The corn suffers much after such an operation, in endeavoring to accommodate itself to its new condition. He deems it a very bad practice to turn weeds under. Corn is in this way sometimes very much injured. A neighbor of his, Mr Henry Shepherd, of Northampton, with a view to determine the utility or evil, if any, of hilling corn, has made a series of experiments for several years, by hilling half an acre moderately in the middle of his field. The rest of the field, manured in the same manner, has been cultivated without hilling. The results show conclusively that the crop is diminished by hilling. The hilling of the corn hastens its ripening, but it is at the expense of the product. Cutting its roots like topping the stalks, tends to ripen the crop prematurely; and in a proportional manner to diminish its productiveness. In a season of early frosts, the crop has been partially saved by thus forcing its maturity; but in favorable seasons, the ripe crop will be considerably lessened by such a process.

*This communication will be given to the public hereafter.

Mr Clark declined adding more at this time, as he would not be thought to desire to monopolize the time of the meeting. There was much more, however, that he would be glad to state. We hope he will not fail to avail himself of an early opportunity to continue his instructive remarks. H. C.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

The state of our columns does not admit at this time our giving the interesting remarks of Mr Meriam and Mr Carter, at the fifth agricultural meeting. We shall report them the next week.

We owe an apology, likewise, for failing this week to give at large the remarks of Hon. Isaac Hill. The matter is in reserve, and it is much too good and too well matured to be in danger of being injured by being kept.

We have received the reports of the Massachusetts Society on Grain and Vegetable Crops, which we shall give in the next Farmer. They came too late for this week's insertion.

We have the pleasure of laying before our readers a communication from Mr Meriam, on an important subject, which we know will be read with interest.

We say to our friend W. B. at Mount Osceola, if he will pardon the vulgarism, "Go ahead!" The agricultural public are largely in his debt. The consciousness of doing good and giving pleasure, is a reward which his good moral developement will teach him how to value. H. C.

☞The Sixth Agricultural Meeting will be held at the State House on Thursday evening, 20th inst., at 7 o'clock. Subject of discussion—Indian Corn and the Small Grains.

MAGNIFICENT AGRICULTURAL TROPHIES.

The following is a list of the weight of hogs fatted on the farm of Elias Phinney, Esq. in Lexington, and sold at the stall of Mr George Munroe, corner of Fleet and Ann Streets. These are only a portion of those which are to be graduated at this noble Porcellian Seminary. The date of their degree is annexed.

February 6th.		lbs.	February 15th.		lbs	February 17th.		lbs.	mo.	old.
1	weighed	407	1	weighed	469	1	weighed	763	20	
2	"	414	2	"	367	2	"	591	15	
3	"	413	3	"	362	3	"	476	15	
4	"	305	4	"	331	4	"	430	12	
5	"	364				5	"	475	12	
6	"	366				6	"	465	12	
						7	"	430	12	
						8	"	464	12	

What farmer's stye or what butcher's stall in New England, or in Old England, ever presented a finer exhibition? May the classes at Harvard do like credit to their keeping; or, as was pleasantly said by an Ex-Governor at the Brighton Cattle Show—"May their *pens* do them equal justice."

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Feb. 17, 1840.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 365 Beef Cattle, 10 Cows and Calves and 325 Sheep.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—The prices obtained last week for a like quality were hardly sustained, and we reduce our quotations on the first quality. We quote First quality, $6 75. Second quality, $6 25 a $6 50. Third quality, $5 25 a $5 75.

Cows and Calves.—A few sales only were noticed and those of ordinary quality. $28, $30, and $35.

Sheep.—We quote lots at $2 70, $3 25, $4 00, $4 50, and $5 00.

Swine.—None at market.

N. B. We intended to have noticed in our report last week, a yoke of beautiful cattle, fed by Mr Ichabod Stow, of Stow, Mass., weighing, when slaughtered over 3,000.

ROHAN POTATOES.

A few barrels of genuine Rohan Potatoes may be had on application to the subscriber. Price $5 per barrel.
WILLIAM KENRICK.
Nonantum Hill, Newton, February 19.

FOR SALE.

A Boar and Sow 15 months old. Also 3 Sows 8 months old. *Full Blood Berkshires*, from the stock of C. N. Bement, Albany. The sows are all with pig. Inquire of
February 19. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending February 16.

Feb., 1840.	7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday, 10	35	41	35	E.
Tuesday, 11	32	33	29	N. W.
Wednesday, 12	18	31	28	N. W.
Thursday, 13	33	43	26	N. W.
Friday, 14	28	37	33	E.
Saturday, 15	32	32	20	S. W.
Sunday, 16	14	22	22	N. W.

WEBSTER'S SEEDS.

The subscribers beg leave to state that they have received Mr Webster's Seeds; those who wish to experiment upon them and obtain a portion, had better call or send soon. They are as follows—

Hopetoun Winter Oats.
Ess-x do. do.
Dutch Poland Spring do.
Kent Tartary do.
Essex Winter Beans.
Mumford's Garden, or Horse Beans.
Yorkshire Prolific Beans.
Suffolk Harrad Tick do.
Whittington Winter Wheat.
Surrey Golden Drop do. do.
Winter Tares, or Vetches.
Spring Tares, or Vetches.
Italian Rye Grass.
Pacey Rye Grass.
White Globe Turnip.
Pomeranian do.
Swedish do.
Red Tankard do.
Yellow Scotch do.
White Tankard do.
Purple Top Hybrid.
Red Globe Mangel Wurtzel.
White do. do.

We have also received some of the Early Hope Cabbage Seed, which was tried last year at New York and proved to be superior to any Early Cabbage hitherto known in the country.

We have now in New York, which will come to hand in a few days, some of the Chevalier Barley, which we shall be happy to offer to our customers.

It has been understood by some that the seeds were left with us for gratuitous distribution. We wish to correct this mistake as it is not the case. We were directed to dispose of them at a small advance, sufficient to pay for our trouble, storage, &c. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.
Boston, Feb. 12, 1840.

SEEDS FOR HOT BEDS.

Early London Cauliflower
Early Dutch do.
Early York Cabbage.
Early Hope do. (very superior.)
Early Broccoli, of sorts.
Sinot's Early Frame Cucumber.
Giant White Solid Celery.
Do Red do.
New Dwarf Red Solid do.
Do. White do.
Superior Double Curled Parsley.
For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.
February 19.

THE FARMERS' COMPANION,

Or Essays on the Principle and Practice of American Husbandry with the Address prepared to be delivered before the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies of New Haven County, Connecticut, and an Appendix containing Tables and other matter useful to the Farmer. Second edition. By the late Hon. Jesse Buel, conductor of the Albany Cultivator. For sale at the New England Farmer Office.
February 19. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GARDENER WANTED.

Wanted, a Gardener of steady habits, that understands raising vegetables and taking care of fruit trees. An American, with a small family, would be preferred. None need apply without good recommendations.
February 19.

GARDEN MATS.

For sale at the New England Farmer, 100 dozen Garden Mats, of extra quality, for covering hot beds, &c.
Feb. 12. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED WITH GREAT CARE, WEEKLY.

		From	To
Alum, American,	pound	5	5½
Ashes, Pearl, per 100 lbs.		5 75	5 87
Pot, " " "		5 12	5 25
Beans, white, Foreign,	bushel	1 62	2 00
" " Domestic,	"	2 00	2 00
Beef, mess,	barrel	14 00	15 00
No. 1.	"	12 00	13 00
prime,	"	10 00	11 00
Beeswax, white,	pound		
yellow,	"	28	35
Bristles, American,	"	35	70
Butter, shipping,	"	10	11
dairy,	"	15	18
Candles, mould,	"	13	14
dipped,	"		
sperm,	"	40	
Cheese, new milk,	pound	10	
Cider,	dozen	1 50	1 75
refined,	barrel	2 50	4 50
Bone Manure,	bushel		35
in casks,	"		40
Feathers, northern, geese,	pound		
southern, geese,	"	37	46
Flax. (American)	"	9	12
Fish, Cod, Grand Bank,	quintal	2 62	2 67
Bay, Chaleur,	"	2 25	2 37
Haddock,	"		1 50
Mackerel, No. 1	barrel	12 50	
No. 2,	"		11 50
No. 3,	"	6 00	6 25
Alewives, dry salted, No. 1.	"	5 00	5 25
Salmon, No. 1,	"	18 00	19 00
Flour, Genesee, cash,	"	7 00	7 12
Baltimore, Howard street,	"		6 75
Richmond canal,	"	6 50	6 62
Alexandria wharf,	"		
Rye,	"	4 62	4 75
Meal, Indian, in bbls.	"	4 25	4 37
Grain: Corn, northern yellow,	bushel		
southern flat, yellow,	"		
white,	"		
Rye, northern,	"		
Barley,	"	75	80
Oats, northern, (prime)	"	46	48
southern,	"	40	45
Grindstones, pr ton of 2000 lbs. rough,		18 00	19 00
do. do. do. finished,		28 00	30 00
Hams, northern,	pound	9	10
southern and western,	"	7	8
Hay, best English, per ton,		16 00	18 00
Eastern screwed,		12 50	13 00
Hops, 1st quality,	pound	25	27
2d quality,	"		
Lard, Boston,	"	10	11
southern,	"	9	10
Leather, Philadelphia city tannage,	"	29	30
do. country do.	"	25	27
Baltimore city tannage,	"	26	28
do. dry hides,	"	22	24
New York red, light,	"	21	23
Boston, do. slaughter,	"	21	22
Boston dry hides,	"	20	22
Lime, best sort,	cask	85	90
Molasses, New Orleans,	gallon	27	30
Sugar House,	"	50	55
Oil, Sperm, Spring,	"	1 10	
Winter,	"	1 14	1 15
Whale, refined,	"	50	55
Linseed, American,	"	68	70
Neat's Foot,	"	95	
Plaster Paris, per ton of 2200 lbs.		2 75	3 00
Pork, extra clear,	barrel	17 00	18 00
clear,	"	16 00	17 00
Mess,	"	14 00	15 00
Prime,	"	12 00	13 00
Whole Hogs,	pound	5½	6½
Seeds: Herd's Grass,	bushel	2 50	2 75
Red Top, southern,	"	80	1 00
northern,	"		1 50
Canary,	"	2 00	2 25
Hemp,	"	2 25	2 50
Flax,	"	1 37	1 62
Red Clover, northern,	pound		
Southern Clover, none,	"		
Soap, American, Brown,	"	5	7
" Castile,	"	12	13
Tallow, tried,	"	11	12
Teazles, 1st sort,	pr M.	2 50	3 00
Wool, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,	pound	50	55
American, full blood, washed,	"	47	50
do. 3-4ths do.	"	44	46
do. 1-2 do.	"	40	42
do. 1-4 and common,	"	37	40
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,	"	45	50
No. 1,	"	38	40
No. 2,	"	25	28
No. 3,	"	18	22

MISCELLANEOUS.

REWARD OF INDUSTRY.

AN ANECDOTE OF IVAN, OF RUSSIA.

The czar Ivan, who reigned over Russia about the middle of the sixteenth century, frequently went out disguised, in order to discover the opinion which the people entertained of the administration. One day, in a solitary walk, near Moscow, he entered a small village, and pretending to be overcome by fatigue, implored relief from several of the inhabitants. His dress was ragged; his appearance mean; and what ought to have excited the compassion of the villagers, and insured his reception, was productive of refusal. Full of indignation at such treatment, he was just going to leave the place, when he perceived another habitation to which he had not applied for assistance. It was the poorest cottage in the village. The Emperor hastened to this, and knocking at the door, a peasant opened it, and asked him what he wanted. "I am almost dying with fatigue and hunger," answered the czar; "can you give me a lodging for one night?" "Alas!" said the peasant, taking him by the hand, "you will have but poor fare here, you are come at a bad time. My wife is very ill, her cries will not let you sleep; but come in; you will at least be sheltered from the cold; and such as we have you shall be welcome to." The peasant then made the czar enter a little room, full of children. In a cradle were two infants sleeping very soundly; a little girl, three years old, was sleeping on a rug near the cradle; while her two sisters, the one five years old, the other seven, were on their knees, crying and praying to God for their mother, who was in a room adjoining, and whose piteous plaints and groans were distinctly heard. "Stay here," said the peasant to the emperor; "I will go and get you something for your supper." He went out, and soon returned with some black bread, eggs, and honey. "You see all I can give you," said the peasant, "partake of it with my children. I must go and assist my wife." "Your charity, your hospitality," said the czar, "must bring down blessings on your house. I am sure God will reward your goodness." "Pray to God, my good friend," replied the peasant; "pray to God Almighty that she may have a safe delivery from all her sufferings, that is all I wish for." "And is that all you wish for, to make you happy?" "Happy; judge for yourself; I have five children, a dear wife who loves me, a father and mother, both in health, and my labor is sufficient to support them all." "Do your father and mother live with you?" "Certainly; they are in the next room with my wife?" "But your cottage here is so very small."

The peasant then went to his wife, who in an hour after happily presented him with a son. Her husband, in a transport of joy, brought the child to the czar. "Look," said he, "see what a fine, hearty child he is!—may God preserve him as he has done my others!" The czar, sensibly affected by the scene, took the infant in his arms: "I know," said he, "from the physiognomy of this child, that he will arrive, I am certain, at a great preferment." The peasant smiled at his prediction, and at that instant the two eldest girls came with their grandmother, to take him back. The little ones followed her; and the peasant lying down upon his straw, invited the stranger to do the same. In a few moments the peasant was in a sound and peaceful sleep; but the czar, sitting up, looked around and contemplated everything with an eye of tenderness and emotion—the sleeping children and the sleeping father. An undisturbed silence reigned in the cottage. "What a calm! what a delightful tranquility!" said the emperor; "avarice and ambition, suspicion and remorse, never enter here. How sweet is the sleep of innocence!" In such reflections, and on such a bed, did the mighty emperor of the Russians spend the night! The peasant awoke at the break of day, and his guest taking leave of him said, "I must return to Moscow, my friend—I am acquainted there with a very benevolent man, to whom I shall take care to mention your humane treatment to me. I can prevail on him to stand godfather to your child. Promise me that I may be present at the christening; I will be back in three hours at farthest." The peasant did not think much of this mighty promise, but in good nature of heart, he consented, however, to the stranger's request.

The czar immediately took his leave; the three hours were soon gone, and nobody appeared. The peasant, therefore, followed by his family, was preparing to carry his child to the church; but as he was leaving his cottage, he heard on a sudden the trampling of horses, and the rattling of many coaches. He looked out, and presently saw a multitude of horses, and a train of splendid carriages. He knew the imperial guards, and instantly called his family to see the emperor go by. They all ran out in a hurry, and stood before the door. The horsemen and carriages soon formed a circular line, and at last the state coach halted directly opposite the good peasant's door. Guards kept back the crowd which the hope of seeing their sovereign had collected together. The coach door was opened; the czar alighted, and advancing toward his host, thus addressed him: "I promised you a godfather; I am come to fulfil my promise; give me your child, and follow me to the church." The poor peasant stood like a statue; now looking at the emperor with the mingled emotions of astonishment and joy, now observing his magnificent robes, and the costly jewels with which they were adorned, and now turning to the crowd of nobles that surrounded him. In this profusion of pomp he could not discover the poor stranger who had lain all night with him on the straw. The emperor for some moments silently enjoyed his perplexity, and then addressed him thus: "Yesterday you performed the duties of humanity; today I have come to discharge the most delightful duty of a sovereign, recompensing virtue. I shall not remove you from a situation to which you do so much honor, and the innocence and tranquility which I envy, but I will bestow upon you such things as may be useful to you. You shall have numerous flocks, rich pastures, and a house to enable you to exercise the duties of hospitality with pleasure. Your new-born son shall be my ward, for you may remember," continued the emperor, smiling, "that I promised he would be fortunate." The good peasant could not speak, but with tears of grateful sensibility in his eyes, he ran instantly to fetch his child, brought him to the emperor, and laid him respectfully at his feet. This excellent sovereign was quite affected; he took the child in his arms, and carried him to church, and after the ceremony was over, unwilling to deprive him of his mother's nourishment, he took him to the cottage and ordered that he should be sent to him as soon as he should be weaned. The czar faithfully observed his engagement, caused the boy to be educated in his palace; provided amply for his future settlement in life, and continued ever after to heap favors upon the virtuous peasant and his family.—*P. C. Journal.*

VEGETABLE CUTTER.

Willis's New Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine is calculated for cutting up vegetables and esculent roots for fodder, and is one of the most useful and economical machines that the farmer can use. The subscribers feel great confidence in recommending this machine to the public; they are aware that it has been long wanted and they now offer a machine that cannot fail to give satisfaction upon a fair trial. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels per minute, in the best possible manner, and is not liable to get out of order, being made in the most substantial manner. No farmer should be without one of them. For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 52 North Market Street.

December 18. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

BONE MANURE.

The subscriber informs his friends and the public, that after ten years experience, he is fully convinced that ground bones form the most powerful stimulant that can be applied to the earth as a manure.

He keeps constantly on hand a supply of Ground Bone, and solicits the patronage of the agricultural community. Price at the Mill 35 cents per bushel; put up in casks and delivered at any part of the city at 40 cents per bushel, and no charge for casks or carting.

Also, ground Oyster Shells.

Orders left at the Bone Mill, near Tremont road, in Roxbury, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No 52 North Market Street, or through the Post Office will meet with prompt attention.

NAHUM WARD.

FLOWER SEEDS—CHOICE VARIETIES.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have received a choice assortment of Flower Seeds from England and France, which, in addition to what have been raised under their own inspection, embrace the finest collection to be found in the country, including all the new Annuals, Biennials, and Perennials worthy of cultivation; neatly done up in papers at 6 1-4, 12 1-2, and 25 cents each. For sale at 51 and 52 North Market Street.

February 5.

SCIONS OF FRUIT TREES FOR SALE.

The collection of fruits cultivated at the Pomological Garden consists of more than 1400 varieties of the Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry and Peach. Scions of all those which have been proved are offered to nurserymen and others. Gentlemen wishing to send collections of American fruits to their friends in Europe can be furnished with most of those of first rate quality. They are warranted true to their names, and are in all cases cut from fruit bearing trees.

Salem, January 28, 1840. ROBERT MANNING.

A MAN WANTED.

To do the work on a small place, a few miles from the city. He must understand the cultivation of vegetables, fruits, &c., and the care of horse, cows, &c. A single man, from 20 to 30 years of age, of steady and industrious habits, may inquire at this office. J. B. I.

January 15.

FOR SALE.

An excellent Farm, pleasantly situated about 20 miles from the city, containing about 100 acres. For full description, particulars, &c. inquire at this office.

Also, a situation wanted by a man with a small family to carry on a farm.

January 30. 4w

ROHAN POTATOES,

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No. 52 North Market Street, at $5 per barrel.

October 16. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER

Is published every Wednesday Evening, at $3 per annum payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within sixty days from the time of subscribing are entitled to a deduction of 50 cents.

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